



*Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council*

## **Transportation Update**

### **July - September 2001**

The **2000 Traffic Count Report** (September 2001) is the second of our annual reports to include counts taken by Harza Northeast Inc. a consultant to the PDCTC. The 2000 report includes counts at 326 locations consisting of 43 state road sections, 97 county road sections, 153 local road sections, and 33 railroad crossings. It is available online at [www.dutchessny.gov/2000tcr.pdf](http://www.dutchessny.gov/2000tcr.pdf). Eoin Wrafter (845) 486-3600.

The **2002-2006 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)** is now available. If you would like a copy, contact Sandra Karge (845) 431-5725 or email [skarge@gw.dot.state.ny.us](mailto:skarge@gw.dot.state.ny.us).

**Want to know what projects are going to be designed soon?** The PDCTC in cooperation with NYSDOT-Region 8, has developed a list of projects from the 2002-2006 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) that are scheduled for design work during 2002-2004. There are two tables, one listed by Project Identification Number (PIN) and the other by Municipality. For more information visit [www.dutchessny.gov/pdctctransprojects.htm](http://www.dutchessny.gov/pdctctransprojects.htm). Eoin Wrafter (845) 486-3600.

Our neighboring metropolitan planning organization, the **New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC)**, had offices on the 82<sup>nd</sup> floor of 1 World Trade Center until the tragic events of September 11, 2001. Three staff members are listed among the missing. NYMTC has established temporary offices at NYSDOT-Region 11 headquarters in Long Island City, Queens.

The PDCTC intends to distribute a **Request For Qualifications (RFQ)** for a consultant to continue the PDCTC traffic count monitoring program started in late 2001. The counts must conform with standards set forth by New York State in EI 01-001 (Traffic Monitoring Standards). The project entails directional traffic counts and geographically referencing all locations. For more information visit [www.dutchessny.gov/trafctrfq.pdf](http://www.dutchessny.gov/trafctrfq.pdf). Eoin Wrafter (845) 486-3600.

The Federal Highway Administration has recently released its **Flexibility in Highway Design Guide**. The guide is written for highway engineers and project managers who want to learn more about the flexibility available to them when designing roads, and illustrates successful approaches used in other highway projects. It is available online at [www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/flex/index.htm](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/flex/index.htm).

**Are you driving while talking? You may miss a light.** A recent study conducted at the University of Utah by the National Safety Council found that drivers engaged in conversations on their cell phones missed twice as many simulated traffic signals as when they were not talking. For more information visit [www.nsc.org/library/shelf/inincell.htm](http://www.nsc.org/library/shelf/inincell.htm).

**Retiming traffic signals** is one of the more cost-effective techniques available to state and local agencies in their efforts to manage congestion and growing travel demand. The Federal Highway Administration has produced a video to demonstrate the techniques and their benefits. We will have the video soon and will make it available on a loan basis to interested agencies. If you would like a copy of the video contact Pamela Crenshaw at the FHWA [pam.crenshaw@fhwa.dot.gov](mailto:pam.crenshaw@fhwa.dot.gov). Eoin Wrafter (845) 486-3600.

The deadline has been extended for the next round of the **TEA-21 Transportation Enhancement Program (TEP)** applications are due **December 3, 2001**. The Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council and the NYS Department of Transportation will be cooperating in the project evaluation processes. As with the first round, all projects must have a *relationship to the surface transportation system* and all projects must be available for public use. There are other eligibility requirements, and potential applicants who wish to discuss their projects may contact Bruce Avery, NYSDOT-Region 8 TEP Coordinator, 4 Burnett Boulevard, Poughkeepsie, New York 12603 (845) 431-5729 or email [bavery@gw.dot.state.ny.us](mailto:bavery@gw.dot.state.ny.us).

The **Wappingers Falls Transportation Plan** is now available on-line. The report details recommendations that will assist the Village in its effort to balance the needs of the pedestrian and the automobile, and to make the community more friendly and inviting for pedestrians. It is available online at [www.dutchessny.gov/wappngrflstranplan.pdf](http://www.dutchessny.gov/wappngrflstranplan.pdf). Eoin Wrafter (845) 486-3600.

**Creating Walkable Communities... One Step at a Time** a statewide conference for pedestrian advocates is scheduled for November 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2001 at the Queensbury Hotel in Glens Falls, NY. Space is limited and the pre-registration deadline is Monday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2001. For more information visit [www.dutchessny.gov/walkable.pdf](http://www.dutchessny.gov/walkable.pdf) or [www.nyscho.org](http://www.nyscho.org) or request a faxable registration form from Cristina Dyer-Drobnack, Event Coordinator at (518) 456-7905.

**Comings and Goings.** The PDCTC welcomes two new members to the Policy and Technical Committees. **Mayor Mary Ross** (Village of Wappingers Falls), and **Supervisor Peter Idema III** (Town of East Fishkill). Thank you and goodbye to **Supervisor Penny Hickman** (Town of Pleasant Valley) and **Mayor Raymond Belding** (Village of Wappingers Falls) who have served the Transportation Council over the past several years. In addition, the PDCTC amended its Operating Procedures in August to name **Joesph Boardman**, Commissioner of NYSDOT, as the NYSDOT voting member of the Council. **Robert Dennison**, NYSDOT-Region 8 Regional Director, will continue as Council Secretary.

The **PDCTC is ON-LINE**. The web site has information on who the PDCTC is, what we do, and projects we are working on. Check it out at [www.dutchessny.gov/pdctc.htm](http://www.dutchessny.gov/pdctc.htm). Eoin Wrafter (845) 486-3600.

Would you like to receive this update via email rather than snail mail? If so send an email to [pdctc@co.dutchess.ny.us](mailto:pdctc@co.dutchess.ny.us) with Newsletter Subscription in the subject line. Eoin Wrafter (845) 486-3600.

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